



Course Summary: October 16, 2026

Ancient History BA Honours

Study mode and duration

Full time: 3 years

UCAS code

V110

UCAS institution name and code

NEWC / N21

Next start date

September 2027

Tuition fees (Year 1)

FT Home: **£10,050**

FT International: **£25,350** [Scholarships available](#)

Typical entry requirements

A-Level: ABB

IB: 32 points

Course delivery

On Campus

Work placement opportunity Study abroad option

•



Course overview

Immerse yourself in studying the history, culture and politics of the ancient world in all its richness and diversity.

Our **Ancient History BA** focuses on a period extending from the eighth-century BCE 'beginnings' of Greek history to the fall of Alexandria in 641 CE.

During your degree, you'll explore:

- a broad range of historical questions relating to Greek and Roman history
- the interactions of Greeks and Romans with neighbouring or conquered peoples
- a time of widespread mobility, intercultural contact, and exchange

The areas covered will include:

- the Mediterranean world
- Central and Northern Europe, including Britain
- beyond (e.g., Graeco-Roman Egypt, Babylon, or the steppe regions north of the Euxine/Black Sea)

You'll focus on ideas of power, identity, religion, and culture along with the histories and experiences of historically marginalised groups.

You'll learn how to work with a wide range of evidence, including:

- historical texts
- inscriptions
- papyri
- coins
- art
- architecture

You can also choose to study ancient Greek and Latin, from Beginners or intermediate level. You'll be learning and working alongside internationally recognised experts. That will provide you with the opportunity to specialise in the topics relating to our various areas of expertise.

Our areas of expertise include:

- the history of Late Bronze Age and Early Iron Age Greece
- interactions between Greeks and non-Greek 'barbarians'
- Alexander the Great
- Hellenistic kingship
- the Roman Republic and the High Empire
- Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt
- Late Antiquity
- relations between pagans and Christians
- ancient literacy and mathematics
- the experiences of immigrants, women, children, and enslaved people
- Greek and Roman religion
- Roman Law

Our dedicated research modules will enable you to develop and further hone a broad set of aptitudes and abilities including:

- a sense of empathy
- curiosity
- the ability to think creatively and reflexively
- working independently

Quality and ranking

Professional accreditation and recognition

Professional accreditation review and recognition of professional qualifications in Europe

Professional accreditations are reviewed regularly by professional bodies to ensure they meet the latest industry practices and regulatory standards. This keeps your degree rigorous, relevant, and highly valued by employers, providing a clear pathway into your chosen career.

If you are studying an accredited degree and considering a career in Europe after graduation, it is important to stay informed about international standards. The best resource for current information is the [UK Government's guidance on recognition of UK professional qualifications in EU member states](#).

This official resource provides essential details on:

- whether your profession is **regulated** in another country.
- the specific **steps you need to take** to practice abroad.
- which **organisations** you should contact to begin the process.

Our students

What you'll learn

Modules

The information below is intended to provide an example of what you will study.

Most degrees are divided into stages. Each stage lasts for one academic year, and you'll complete modules totalling 120 credits by the end of each stage.

Full details of the modules on offer will be published through the [Programme Regulations and Specifications](#) ahead of each academic year. This usually happens in May.

Our teaching is informed by research. Course content may change periodically to reflect developments in the discipline, the requirements of external bodies and partners, and student feedback.

Your compulsory modules will provide you with a wide-ranging and inclusive introduction to antiquity in a broad global context. You'll gain:

- broad overviews of Greek and Roman history, which will serve as a foundation for the rest of your degree
- knowledge and understanding of significant historical issues from a more global perspective. We'll focus on recurrent themes or topics across a diversity of regions and cultures

You'll then choose three optional modules. These may include ancient language (Greek or Latin), literature (in translation), philosophy, art or archaeology modules.

Modules

Compulsory Modules

Credits

West meets East: Greek History and Society, 776-200 BC	20
The Roman World from Romulus to Trajan	20
Global Ancient Histories	20
Optional Modules	Credits
The Archaeology of Britain from the Romans to the 20th Century	20
Greek and Roman Art and Archaeology	20
The World of Latin Literature	20
Tragedy, Comedy, History: The World of Greek Literature	20
How Should I Live? An Introduction to Ancient Philosophy	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Greek Language and Literature Part 1	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Latin Language and Literature Part 1	20
Global Middle Ages	20
Stuff: living in a material world	20

Compulsory modules will expand your knowledge of historical developments across the Greek and Roman worlds.

They will introduce you to the Hellenistic period in Greek history, after the conquests of Alexander the Great, when great kingdoms, many headed by Greek

rulers, competed for power in the eastern Mediterranean and western Asia.

You will also learn about the mature Roman Empire: the many ways in which it changed over the centuries until its ultimate demise or transformation.

Optional modules will provide you with the opportunity to further your study of aspects of Greek and Roman culture and language, learn about ancient institutions like religion and slavery, or explore neighbouring periods like the Bronze Age and the Middle Ages.

A focus of this year will be developing your research and problem-solving skills through:

- critical study
- guided research
- writing of commentaries on historical texts and artefacts

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
--------------------	---------

The Researcher's Toolkit: Sources, methods, and interpretations in Classics and Ancient History	20
---	----

Hellenistic Empires from Alexander to Cleopatra	20
---	----

The Roman World from Hadrian to Heraclius	20
---	----

Optional Modules	Credits
------------------	---------

From Lascaux to Knossos: Prehistoric Europe	20
---	----

Archaeologies of the Roman Empire: The Roman World from Augustus to Diocletian	20
--	----

Colonial Worlds: History and Archaeology	20
The Classical Inheritance in Western Culture	20
Approaches to Greek Mythology	20
Love, Death, and Longing	20
Warlike women, one-eyed warriors and gold-guarding griffins: The World of Herodotus	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Greek Language and Literature Part 1	20
Greek and Roman Religions	20
Slavery in Greco-Roman Antiquity	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Latin Language and Literature Part 1	20
Sacred words and dirty deeds: Thriving in Late Antiquity	20
The Mediterranean: a connected past	20
Africa: History of a Continent	20
Destroying Nature: Disasters, Diseases and Environmental Injustice	20
Diversities of Sexuality and Gender in History	20

You'll also have access to a wide range of modules relating to Greek and Roman history, culture, and society. This is in addition to options in History or

Archaeology.

You only take one of the following modules if you undertake the Study Abroad exchange programme:

[HaSS Study Abroad Semester 1 \(60 credits\)](#)

[HaSS Study Abroad Semester 2 \(60 credits\)](#)

You'll have access to an even wider range of optional modules to select from.

Modules

Compulsory Modules	Credits
---------------------------	----------------

Dissertation in Classics and Ancient History	40
--	----

Optional Modules	Credits
-------------------------	----------------

Early Medieval Britain	20
--	----

Frontier Communities of Roman Britain	20
---	----

Early Prehistoric Europe: Origins and transformations	20
---	----

Sex, bodies and identities in Classical Greece	20
--	----

Homeric Archaeology: Greece from Palaces to City States	20
---	----

Fundamentals of Digital Humanities: Computer literacy, data analysis and GIS	20
--	----

The Classical Inheritance in Western Culture	20
--	----

Approaches to Greek Mythology	20
---	----

Love, Death, and Longing	20
--	----

Warlike women, one-eyed warriors and gold-guarding griffins: The World of Herodotus	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Greek in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Greek Language and Literature Part 1	20
City of Athens: Power, Society and Culture	20
Roman Egypt	20
Businesswomen in the ancient world: Challenging Prejudices and Inequality	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 1	20
Beginners' Latin in Action Part 2	20
Intermediate Latin Language and Literature Part 1	20
Buddhism and Society in Medieval Japan	20
Career Development for final year students	20

How you'll learn

Teaching methods

You'll be taught through a dynamic range of methods and activities, including:

- lectures
- seminars
- tutorials
- workshops
- practical activities

- site visits
- independent study

These activities take place in the classroom, library, field and the museum.

Assessment methods

You'll be assessed through a combination of:

- Assignments – written or fieldwork
- Coursework
- Essays
- Examinations – practical or online
- Portfolio submission
- Presentations

Skills and experience

Practical skills

At our on-campus museum, the Great North Museum, you'll be able to:

- access specialist collections
- handle an array of exciting artefacts from ancient Greek, Roman and Etruscan civilisations

During your degree, you'll also have the chance to take part in extracurricular field trips that take advantage of the North East's rich history, such as:

- the nearby World Heritage Site of Hadrian's Wall
- the classically-inspired Belsay Hall
- Wallington Hall

Transferable skills

Our Ancient History degree is designed to equip you with a range of transferable skills highly valued by employers, including:

- problem-solving
- creative and empathic thinking
- critical and analytical reasoning
- project management
- ability to work independently
- spoken and written communication skills
- ability to construct an argument
- time management

Research skills

Throughout your degree you will be working on a range of research projects, and will have access to the expertise and advice of members of staff. At the end of your second year you'll have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship.

You'll spend the summer following your second year working alongside academic staff on your own research project.

In your final year, using the skills developed during your degree, you'll write a dissertation on a topic of your own choosing. During this, you'll hone your investigative skills as you undertake independent research with access to extensive print and electronic resources, as well as archives and special collections.

Support

You'll be welcomed into a vibrant and supportive community. We will ensure you are well placed to achieve your highest potential and are equipped for career success.

You'll have the support of an academic member of staff as an academic adviser throughout your degree to help with academic and personal issues.

Peer mentors will help you in your first year. They are fellow students who can help you settle in and answer any questions you have when starting university.

Opportunities

Study abroad

Experience life in another country by choosing to study abroad as part of your degree. You'll be encouraged to embrace fun and challenging experiences, make connections with new communities and graduate as a globally aware professional, ready for your future.

You can choose to spend up to a year studying at a partner institution overseas.

If you choose to study abroad, it will extend your degree by a year.

[Find out more about study abroad](#)

Work placement

Get career ready with a work placement and leave as a confident professional in your field. You can apply to spend 9 to 12 months working in any organisation in the world, and receive University support from our dedicated team to secure your dream placement. Work placements take place between stages 2 and 3.

You'll gain first-hand experience of working in the sector, putting your learning into practice and developing your professional expertise.

If you choose to take a work placement, it will extend your degree by a year, and your degree title will show you have achieved the placement year. A work placement is not available if you're spending a year studying abroad. Placements are subject to availability.

[Find out more about work placements](#)

Your future

Join a network of successful graduates

You'll acquire and further develop a dynamic mix of practical, intellectual and transferable skills. These will enable you to thrive in a professional setting. You'll be able to take advantage of a wide range of career opportunities on completion of your studies.

Our Ancient History graduates have gone on to work in a diverse range of careers, including:

- law and legal services
- marketing
- financial services
- journalism
- teaching
- armed forces
- museum and heritage work
- academic research

You'll develop a mix of practical, intellectual and transferable skills desirable to employers. This will give you an excellent choice of further study and career opportunities open to you on completion of your studies.

You'll develop a mix of practical, intellectual and transferable skills desirable to employers. This will give you an excellent choice of further study and career opportunities open to you on completion of your studies.

Classics graduates find themselves in a diverse range of careers, including:

- research, information work and IT
- law and legal services
- journalism and marketing
- retail
- social work

[Read more about our graduate career paths](#)

Careers support

Our Careers Service is one of the largest and best in the country, and we have strong links with employers. We provide an extensive range of opportunities to all students through our ncl+ initiative.

[Visit our Careers Service website](#)

Facilities and environment

Facilities

You'll be based in the School of History, Classics and Archaeology, located at the heart of campus in the historic Armstrong Building. You'll have access to excellent study resources including:

- the Philip Robinson University Library, which houses over 800,000 books and provides access to ca. 1.8m e-books

- Special Collections & Archives – a rich collection of archival material, historical medical texts and rare books
- The Great North Museum: Hancock, our on-campus museum which holds an extensive collection of Greek, Roman, and Etruscan artefacts.
- a Material Culture Analytical Suite kitted out with microscopes, and 2D and 3D scanning equipment.

[Find out more about the School of History, Classics and Archaeology](#)

Find out more...

- Go online for information about our full range of degrees:
www.ncl.ac.uk/undergraduate
- Watch videos about student life in Newcastle by visiting our YouTube channel at **www.youtube.com/@newcastleuni**
- Watch a virtual tour of our campus at
<https://youtu.be/vJUfHcqB7l8?si=8lUrf7kTxXbgdfr1>
- Book for an Open Day to come and see us in person
www.ncl.ac.uk/openday
- Contact us online at **www.ncl.ac.uk/enquiries** or phone +44 (0)191 208 3333

This brochure is created from web content and is up to date at the time of creation (see the first page for creation date). If you are on screen you are able to use the live links that are highlighted in blue. If reading in print, the URLs provided above will help you to navigate back online. Full details of the University's terms and conditions, including reference to all relevant policies, procedures, regulations and information provision, are available at:

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/student-welcome/student-contract/>

© Newcastle University.

The University of Newcastle upon Tyne trading as Newcastle University.